

Message Text

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FOR SONNENFELDT

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION DEPT, INFO BELGRADE, BERLIN,
USBERLIN, BONN, BUCHAREST, BUDAPEST, GENEVA, LININGRAD,
LONDON, MUNICH, NATO, PARIS, PRAGUE, ROME, SOFIA, WARSAW,
MBFR VIENNA, SALT TWO GENEVA, CINCEUR, CINCLANT, CINCPAC,
CINCUSAREUR, CINCUSNAVEUR, USNMR FROM MOSCOW 21 MAR.

QUOTE: C O F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 3899

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

CINCUSAREUR FOR POLAD

CINCUSNAVEUR FOR POLAD

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PARM US UR

SUBJ: KOSYGIN ON DETENTE

1. SUMMARY. KOSYGIN IN A SPEECH ON MARCH 20 CONTINUED
THE BREZHNEV LINE FROMBUDAPEST, CALLING FOR EXPANDED
DETENTE MEASURES; CONCLUSION SOON OF CSCE; AND PROGRESS
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IN "SEPARATE, CONCRETE" AREAS OF DISARMAMENT. HE

AVOIDED CONTENTIOUS COMMENTS ON THE WORLD'S TROUBLE SPOTS. END SUMMARY.

2. KOSYGIN'S SPEECH MARCH 20 AT A KREMLIN LUNCHEON IN HONOR OF CHIRAC CONTINUES THE DEFENSE OF DETENTE BEGUN BY BREZHNEV IN BUDAPEST. KOSYGIN'S SPEECH DEVOTES MORE EFFORT TO JUSTIFYING DETENTE ON A GOVERNMENT TO GOVERNMENT LEVEL WITHOUT DISCUSSING ITS MEANING FOR THE CLASS STRUGGLE, AS DID BREZHNEV IN BUDAPEST. WITH THIS EXCEPTION, HOWEVER, THE TONE OF KOSYGIN'S SPEECH CONTINUES BREZHNEV'S ATTEMPT (ECHOED BY KIRILENKO IN ROME) TO REASSURE THE WEST THAT, EVENTS OF THE RECENT PAST NOTWITHSTANDING, THE SOVIET UNION CONTINUES ITS COMMITMENT TO A DETENTE RELATIONSHIP.

3. EXPECTEDLY, KOSYGIN PAYS CONSIDERABLE HOMAGE TO FRENCH-SOVIET AGREEMENTS OF THE 1960'S AS A PRECURSOR OF THE PATTERN OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS NOW BECOMING PREDOMINANT, IN KOSYGIN'S WORDS, IN EUROPE. HE STATES FLATLY THAT ALL ACUTE QUESTIONS CONCERNING EUROPE'S TERRITORIAL-POLITICAL STRUCTURE, AS THAT STRUCTURE DEVELOPED AS A RESULT OF WORLD WAR II, HAVE BEEN "DECIDED".

4. ON CSCE KOSYGIN SAYS THAT THE "OBJECTIVE PRECONDITIONS" FOR COMPLETION OF THE CONFERENCE IN THE NEAREST FUTURE AT THE SUMMIT LEVEL HAVE BEEN CREATED. HE CONTINUES THAT "IT IS NOW FULLY POSSIBLE TO DESIGNATE DATES IN THE NEAREST FUTURE FOR COMPLETION OF THE CONFERENCE."

5. KOSYGIN EXPLAINS THAT SOVIET EFFORTS TO MAKE DETENTE STABLE AND IRREVERSIBLE ARE AIMED AT REMOVING THE THREAT OF WAR AND REDUCING THE BURDEN OF DEFENSE COSTS. THE LATTER, HE SAYS, ARE "DIRECTLY TIED" TO THE WEST'S PRESENT ECONOMIC TROUBLES. HE THEN SAYS THAT "ONLY A CONSEQUENT CONTINUATION OF THE PROCESS OF DETENTE, ALONG WITH REAL MEASURES AIMED AT LIMITING AND REDUCING THE ARMED FORCES OF STATES, WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO FREE GREAT SUMS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF URGENT ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROGRAMS IN THE INTERESTS OF A HIGHER STANDARD
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OF LIVING".

6. AS BREZHNEV AND KIRILENKO BEFORE HIM, KOSYGIN SKIPS LIGHTLY OVER PRESENT WORLD TROUBLE SPOTS. HE LISTS THE MIDDLE EAST, INDOCHINA, AND THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN AS AREAS ABOUT WHICH THE SOVIET UNION IS CONCERNED, BUT OFFERS NO SUGGESTION ON HOW THE PROBLEMS OF THESE AREAS ARE TO BE SOLVED.

7. HE CONTENDS THAT ONE OF THE MAIN ASPECTS OF SOVIET FOREIGN POLICY IS SUPPORT FOR DISARMAMENT, AND CALLS FOR AGREEMENTS "ON SEPARATE CONCRETE MEASURES (OTDEL'NYE KONKRETNYE MERY) IN THE AREA OF DISARMAMENT AND LIMITATION OF THE ARMS RACE, ESPECIALLY NUCLEAR ARMS." IN HIS ONLY REFERENCE TO THE U.S. IN THE SPEECH, HE THEN NAMES THE PNW AND SALT AGREEMENTS AS EXAMPLES OF AGREEMENTS WHICH SERVE THESE GOALS.
STOESSEL UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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